Ulysses
Philomathic Library
Celebrating the love of learning

Strategic Plan
2017 - 2021
The Ulysses Philomathic Library is an educational and cultural resource center which strives to meet the informational, creative, and leisure needs of all community residents. To that end, the library will provide a broad collection of materials and access to a wide network of contemporary resources and media.
The primary purpose of a strategic plan is to create guidelines for ensuring that we are providing relevant, innovative, and quality resources to our service area. Our five-year goals for the library reflect our values as an organization. This plan describes three strategic goals that stem from UPL’s mission.

Our vision is to provide a library that is the heart of the community, a library that offers a world of learning, wonder, and meaningful recreation. We seek to create services and collections worthy of a large library but in the warm, courteous environment of a small, local library. We believe that through the values of volunteerism, intellectual freedom, and progressive innovation of technology we can offer a library that meets this vision.

This plan was developed after the Board of Directors solicited feedback from a wide variety of individuals, including key community partners, patrons, volunteers, staff members, and others. This process was a useful exercise and demonstrated that the library is well-positioned to build upon its many strengths and forge ahead with its next five-year plan.
In pursuit of its mission, UPL has three key roles in the community:

- **UPL as an educator:** how can UPL best provide innovative educational and recreational services, technology, collections, and programming?

- **UPL as a community resource:** what does the community want, and how can the UPL best continue in its role as a recreational and educational resource in the community?

- **UPL as an inviting place:** how can UPL best design, maintain, and use its indoor and outdoor spaces to support its mission?
Goals

Focused on its mission and key roles, UPL’s five-year strategic plan articulates three goals:

1. Enhance community engagement and support
   1a) enhance and publicize UPL’s positive impact in the community
   1b) collaborate with community partners to increase outreach and impact
   1c) increase membership, volunteerism, and other methods of engagement

Farmer’s Market Storytime
2. Increase access, relevancy, and innovation in facilities, collections, services, technology, and programming

2a) strengthen the physical and virtual collections and access to them

2b) support robust programming and events for the community

2c) optimize indoor and outdoor spaces to support UPL’s mission

3. Pursue operational excellence

3a) empower director and staff to deliver exceptional service

3b) encourage, support, and recognize volunteers

3c) secure sustainable funding

George book discussion with Author, Alex Gino.